

Application No.: 09/913,427

Attorney Docket No.: ERI-113XX

Filing Date: October 12, 2001

(SALK2250-2; 088802-5154)

Response to Office Action (mailed May 26, 2004) faxed October 26, 2004

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**ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE**

The present invention is directed to methods of repairing dystrophic, differentiated neural tissue, such as damaged or diseased retina or optic nerve, in humans and other animals. In particular, the invention relates to introduction of neural progenitor cells obtained from adult donors into a dystrophic neural tissue site of an animal recipient, including an adult (mature) animal, whether xenogeneic, allogeneic, or syngeneic. These adult-derived, neural progenitor cells can functionally and morphologically integrate into both mature and immature, dystrophic neural tissue.